



Cambridge HOSPITALS Chronicle: stories from Cambridge newspapers 1888 to 1990 relating to Addenbrooke's Hospital, Mill Road Hospital, First Eastern General Hospital and others with notes on the Ambulance Service and nursing

Note

The story of Addenbrooke's Hospital was covered in far more detail in "The history of Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge" [by] Arthur Rook, Margaret Carlton, & W. Graham Cannon. Cambridge, University Press, 1991.

1889

1889

By now Addenbrooke's Hospital a large & important medical school with lectures given by people not members of hospital staff 1895

1889

New outpatients & nurses buildings

1898

1898

Finance unsatisfactory, management changes opposed [1.5]

1899

1899 02 02

The amount of good which results from the presence in our midst of Addenbrooke's hospital is incalculable. In one important particular, however the work is limited and confined: the want of a suitable home for convalescent patients. The Hunstanton home is much appreciated but receives no surgical cases which require the smallest dressing, which limits its usefulness to patients, many of whom linger on in hospital for several weeks, when probably a very short time at the sea side would restore them to complete health. Now some friends have guaranteed to start a convalescent home exclusively in connection with Addenbrooke's, and another donor has promised to give a house at Hunstanton in furtherance of the scheme 1899 02 02

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1900

1900

Regius Professor of Physic & Professor of Surgery elected as additional members of medical staff

1901

1901

In debt, plan a new wing as memorial to Queen Victoria [1.6]

1901 06 13

Yarmouth Guardians received a report on the dissection of paupers' bodies. They had been sent to Cambridge by officials of the workhouse since 1881. Professor Macalister sent a cheque for £6 14s 6d for each body but only £5 10s 0d was really incurred for expenses. The railway charge for the carriage of a body was £4 6s.0d but the Master's clerk said it was £4 9s.0d and that he put the other 3s. in the poor box. £1 was paid for a coffin but he received 1s. from the undertaker. All the clerk had to do was to see the body was screwed down, go to the railway station and pay the charge. He said he gave the porters sixpence each but inquiry proved they only received a pint of beer

1901 07 02

Great Yarmouth board of Guardians revived the question of paupers' bodies being sent to Cambridge Anatomical School for dissection. Every friendless person who died in the workhouse should be asked before death if he had any objection to his body being sent away for dissection. Mr Saul thought that was a gruesome and unseemly idea. Dissection was perfectly legal and right; if they declined to allow unclaimed bodies to be used surgeons would be compelled to make experiments on living people or resort to paying for bodies stolen from newly-made graves. The practice will continue 01 07 02

1901 09 24

The Infectious Diseases Hospital, long known as the Sanatorium, in Mill Road, Cambridge is at the centre of the system under which all cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever and small-pox are notified and wherever isolation at home is difficult the patient is removed for treatment to the hospital. Although Romsey Town has encroached extensively upon what not very long ago were open fields, the Sanatorium is still upon the verge of the country. From the grounds the view of a fine expanse of rural scenery is commanded; the air is fresh and invigorating. There is a large field behind and in this the new diphtheria block has been erected CDN 1901 09 24

1902

1902 10 01

A fire broke out in the women's ward at the top of the left wing of Addenbrooke's Hospital. In a very short time the flames secured a firm hold and the unfortunate patients had to be removed. Flames burst through the roof and worked towards the centre of the building. Nurses and probationers heroically entered the wards and brought their patients to a place of safety. Many scenes, tragically distressing, were witnessed. To such proportions did the fire assume that it was deemed advisable to remove other patients and several afflicted old men were brought to the lawn. The news of the outbreak spread quickly throughout Cambridge and some thousands of people gathered in front of the Hospital. The scene on the open plot of greensward in front of Addenbrooke's Hospital presented a curiously medley of hastily-improvised arrangements for caring for patients evacuated from the blazing building. Bed after bed, each with its living freight, was carefully lifted with stalwart arms and borne steadily to the quarters assigned to it in neighbouring houses. In the meantime the dull clouds of smoke rolling skywards from the Hospital gradually grew less in volume. The ceaseless exertions of the firemen were telling their tale and soon water pouring in a cascade down the staircase adjoining the blazing wing made it clear that the building was flooded to the extent that rendered the further spread of the fire improbable. The police report on the Addenbrooke's Hospital fire says they found a man at the top of a ladder with his head through the trap door leading to the roof of Victoria Ward, using a small hosepipe. Shortly afterwards the firemen arrived and after much trouble, mainly through the low pressure of water, got to work, but could not extinguish the flames before the roof and

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contents of Victoria Ward were destroyed. Police assisted to maintain order, regulate the traffic in Trumpington Street where there was a large crowd, and remove and restore patients, many of whom were in a fainting condition. CDN 1902 10 01-02-03

1902 11 12

The report of the committee on the fire at Addenbrooke's Hospital shows that the fire did not originate from any carelessness, but from the improper construction of the building itself. Joists have been found extending to the interior of the chimneys, which the committee regards as dangerous. The marvel is that it was ever permitted. If this method of construction prevails generally then some rather extensive alterations will have to be faced. CDN 1902 11 12

1903

1903

New form of administration introduced - change from 600 Governors to 24 elected representatives [1.8]

1904

1904

Reopen wards but face large overdraft, Peckover gives £1,000 & granted Freedom of Borough in acknowledgement of his munificence

1904

Not possible to proceed with Memorial wing [1.9]

1904 02 01

The recent decision to reduce the number of days on which the Cambridge Sanatorium can be visited from two a week to one a month has effected a change to which the patients' parent are not becoming easily reconciled. On Sunday afternoon several made the journey hoping to see their children through the windows. But all the blinds had been drawn and the children instructed not to look out. The parents waited for half an hour in the rain and then all but one departed. One man, who had not seen his son for five weeks, waited in an adjoining field. His vigil was rewarded when one of the blinds was raised and a timid little face peeped out and waved. The father went away somewhat gladdened at having seen his child in the distance. 04 02 01

1905

1905

Cambridge Research Hospital founded by T.S.P. Strangeways (moved Worts Causeway 1912; tries find cures of killer & crippling diseases) [CEN 20.6.87]

1906

1906

Cambridge Voluntary Association for Maternity & Child Welfare set up with milk kitchen in Newmarket Road & a few destitute mothers who had given birth cared for amongst geriatrics at Mill Road workhouse - its first connection with babies [15.1]

1906 01 06

A fire broke out in the roof of Addenbrooke's Hospital and extensive damage by fire and water has been wrought. A laundry maid saw wreaths of smoke above the roof of the operating theatre. The staff devoted themselves to the safety of the patients; those who could walk were hurriedly clad in warm wraps and led down the emergency staircase down which the more infirm, some on stretchers and some in their beds were carried. A similar fire broke out in October 1902. 06 01 06a-c

1906 01 01

Addenbrooke's Hospital fire – further report on cause – 06 02 01a

1906 07 12

It was alleged that the matron of the Cambridge Infectious Diseases Hospital had given a private supper party to friends and corporation officials. A councillor had stood in the pouring rain for two hours and watched through the window! The patients were in isolation and there was no objection to having a friend occasionally, but a large-scale party was not suitable. It had been the custom to have tea and bread and butter when the committee met there – that too should be stopped. 06 07 12 b & c

1906 12 05

Sir – each scarlet fever patient leaving the Cambridge Sanatorium has to have a final disinfecting bath, after which he is put into clean clothes sent from home. But the patient is bathed and dressed in the bathroom in which all the patients have been peeling for an indefinite period. The room is therefore more infectious than the wards themselves. Discharged patients risk carrying home the infection they have been isolated to obviate – J.H. Dalton 06 12 05

1908

1908 07 31

Addenbrooke's Hospital is now secure in the possession of half the estate of the deceased Polish Jew of Romsey Town, Harris Norman. The other portion has been left to the London Jewish Synagogue for the poor and needy Jews. A bachelor, he had amassed a fortune of £12,000 by the sale of cheap jewellery and by investments. At his death an envelope thought to contain the will was fetched from the safe but found to contain only a blank piece of paper. Subsequently the will was found in the lining of an old silk hat he had given away. 08 07 31

1908 11 06

The Cambridge District Nurses moved into their new home standing in its own grounds on Newmarket Road. Designed by W.M.Fawcett and built by Coulson and Lofts, it has a smart exterior appearance. Facing the road is the entrance to the surgery with the dining room, and kitchen with sitting rooms for the Superintendent and nurses on the first floor together with four bedrooms and another three on the second floor. The building is lighted by incandescent gas and fitted with electric bells CWN 08 11 06 p5

1908 12 04

Cambridge is not too well supplied with private nursing homes for the treatment of medical and surgical cases so the Priory Nursing Home almost opposite Christ Church, Newmarket Road, is welcome. It stands in grounds of nearly an acre with a garden sloping down to the river, isolated from the throb and vibration of traffic in one of the healthiest spots in Cambridge. A sense of comfort pervades the rooms and lurks in the corners and it seems hard to realise one is in a place associated with sickness and physical discomfort. 08 12 04

1909

1909 05 07

Prince Henry of Battenberg opened a sale of work in aid of the funds for providing a properly-equipped Children's Ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital. There has been one in the past but some years ago it was done away with as the Hospital's income was not sufficient. Children have not been entirely neglected: urgent cases have been taken in but the staff felt handicapped without a bright, sunny ward where the injured and diseased little ones might be given a fair chance of recovery. 09 05 07 p5

1910

1910 06 04

Cambridge & District Workers Hospital Fund set up - regular contributions to fund to maintain hospital Addenbrooke's hospital daily menu includes 50 cabbages, 6 stone of potatoes, 60 eggs etc, some given by gardeners in villages served [3.10]

1910 06 10

Monday marked an important epoch in the history of Addenbrooke's Hospital when the electrical department, containing the new X-Rays and other appliances, was formally opened. The installation of the X-Rays is yet another evidence of the determined effort made by the Hospital Authorities to keep pace with modern scientific discovery and have all the latest appliances. A 16-inch coil is used, with a motor generator and Wehnell brakes, and currents can be obtained up to 35 amps. By means of the Rays cases of bone disorder, injuries, cancer, rodent ulcer and ringworm can be dealt with. 10 06 10a & b

1910 10 07

Although the Cambridge Workers' Hospital Fund has only been in operation for 13 weeks it has already collected £166. Great difficulty has been experienced with some employers: hundreds of firms have been written to but few had replied. More accommodation was needed at Addenbrooke's Hospital but this could not be undertaken unless the workers would raise an extra £1,000 a year to maintain the extensions. The hospital charges for bandages and medicine were very reasonable but although subscribing workers should have them, this could not apply to their family or relatives 10 10 07e

1910 10 21

A public meeting agreed that the best Cambridge memorial to King Edward VII would be an extension to Addenbrooke's Hospital. At present there was a small ward where only eight infants could be accommodated and the outpatients department did more harm than good as people suffering from infectious diseases had to wait in company with others, increasing infection. The boiler needed replacement and there was need for a new room for X-ray apparatus as well as a new lift. There should also be a bust of the late King to be displayed in the Guildhall alongside that of his mother, Queen Victoria. 10 10 21e & f

1911

1911 08 18

Addenbrooke's Hospital death under chloroform; anaesthetist exonerated. Richard Harris son of Newmarket licensee 11 08 18b

1912

1912

Additional accommodation for Infectious Diseases Hospital [3.11]

1912

Cambridge Research Hospital (Strangeways research Laboratory) opens, Hills Road, principally engaged in cancer research [3.12, 369.15.11]

1912 05 24

Mrs H. Bonnett of Lensfield Road has offered to build, equip and endow a Clinical Laboratory for the benefit of Addenbrooke's Hospital as a memorial to her son, the late Mr John Bonnett, who was for many years secretary and legal adviser to the Hospital and one of its most earnest advocates and supporters. It is not often that such a generous, one might almost say princely, benefaction is offered for such an invaluable object. It is a most generous gift at a time when the Governors are about to decide on plans for a new Children's Ward and out-patients' department. 12 05 24f

1912 05 31

Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 06 24

The wealth of Cambridge in scientific fields seems to grow almost daily. Today is to be opened the new Cambridge Research Hospital for the study of rheumatoid arthritis. The condition can be one of almost ceaseless pain but it arouses less sympathy and lacks the sentimental element that helps hospitals for children and the consumptive. Success will bring about a greater diminution in human misery than the discovery of a cure of cancer. 12 06 24g

1913

1913 01 10

Addenbrooke's Hospital big falling off in church contributions – report, gifts in kind 13 01 10 p6 CIP

1913 02 21

Now the council had acquired land adjoining the Infectious Diseases Hospital, work on two new isolation blocks should be started. Each would have twelve beds in a sort of cubicle closed in with glass partitions, so that it would be quite possible to have in one bed a patient suffering from scarlet fever and diphtheria and only a few yards away, but separated by glass, another patents for whom it was extremely important that there should be no risk of catching diphtheria. This needed a skilled architect to design 13 02 21 p7 CIP

1913 05 02

Addenbrooke's Hospital John Bonnet memorial clinic stone-laying 13 05 02 p2 CIP

1913 07 18

Mrs Almeric Paget has again shown her support for Addenbrooke's Hospital. A new lift is required to replace the existing one for moving patients from one floor to another or to the operating theatre on the top storey. The cost is £1,000 (about £98,000 at today's prices) and she promised £500 with a further £250 if the remainder could be raised. Lord Peckover immediately wrote the cheque needed to match the generous offer 1913 07 18 p12 CIP

1913 08 01

Red Cross VAD detachments had a field day at Newton Hall Park. Shepreth send a complete detachment of both men and women. The village has a pensioned R.A.M.C., Mr A. Smith, who they made Quartermaster and threw himself heartily into the work. He improvised stretchers using ash poles but slings. These are necessary for it is quite impossible for bearers to carry wounded men long distances without them 13 08 01 p2 CIP

1913 08 22

Infectious disease hospital may be extended by two additional blocks, one a twelve-bed observation ward, the other a twelve-bed pavilion with two single-bed wards, a convalescent room & additions to the administration block 13 08 22 p4 CIP

1913 10 24

An alarming accident occurred during the building operations at Addenbrooke's Hospital. An iron girder which had been hoisted to the roof slipped and crashed through the roof and the floor of the topmost ward into the ward below. Considerable alarm was naturally caused, particularly as the second ward was occupied by patients, but providently the girder fell clear of the beds and nobody was injured. It was quickly hoisted out and the holes in the roof were temporally boarded up 13 10 24 p8 CIP

1913 10 31

College Servants formed a VAD so they could train to join the First Eastern Hospital. This was at a skeleton stage. Cambridge was an ideal place with all its colleges capable of holding a large number of people. It needed to be run on military lines 13 10 31 p10 CIP

1914

1914-18

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Various casualty hospitals opened

1914 02 13

John Bennett clinical labs open, he was secretary to hospital governors Addenbrooke's – 14 02 13b, c [1.10,2.5,3.13]

1914 08 07

Men of the First Eastern General Hospital were quartered in Corn Exchange Street. An elaborate scheme was drawn up for constituting Cambridge a great hospital centre and the various college buildings were mapped out for conversion into wards. But this scheme is intended in case of invasion and it is to be hoped will never be needed. At present the need is for accommodation at places where wounded men are likely to be landed 14 08 07

1914 08 14

Arrangements are in hand for the accommodation of a very large number of wounded in the event of Cambridge being established as a base hospital and completely equipped wards have been fitted up in many of the colleges. Nearly 100 Army Nursing Corps nurses have been quartered at Downing College and a large number of beds lent by various colleges. Scores of voluntary workers are making clothing. Accommodation for 500 wounded may be required when the Great Court of Trinity College would become a huge temporary hospital 14 08 14 p5 Shepreth VAD could have a hospital for 26 patients ready within 24 hours.

1914 08 14

Red Cross hospitals have been equipped throughout the county. At Cottenham 40 beds are ready at one hour's notice, 25 are ready for wounded at Histon Council School, Oakington has 15. At Waterbeach the Baptist Sunday Schoolroom is equipped as a hospital with nurses in uniform presenting a neat appearance. At Newmarket thirty beds are fitted in the King Edward VII Memorial Hall. Should 100 wounded men be sent further beds will be fitted in the Astley Institute, Town Hall and Technical Institute. 14 08 14 p8

1914 09 04

Cambridge is one of the principal base hospitals to which the brave men wounded at Mons have been brought, 150 are now being cared for at King's College, to which the First Eastern General Hospital has been transferred from the Leys School. They include a Cambridge man, Leonard Cornwell of Gwydir Street, who was the very last to be placed in the train. So within a month of his departure he is back in his own town bearing marks of the terrible conflict. 14 09 04

1914 09 04

The train with wounded from the front was delayed. Rooms on the Great Northern platform were converted into wards for serious cases before being taken to hospital. Outside a fleet of motor cars and tradesmen's vans converted to ambulances were ready to take the men to the First Eastern Hospital now at Trinity College. It was not easy to lift the badly-wounded men out of the carriages but stretchers were placed on luggage trolleys and wheeled slowly along the platform. There were tears in the eyes of onlookers 14 09 04 p7

1914 09 25

A complete military hospital to accommodate 520 patients is to be built on college playing fields, Burrell's Walk. The hospital has to be completed within a month – indeed a considerable part is required within a fortnight so that the present hospital at Trinity College may be vacated before term commences. It will comprise of five wards with 100 beds in each, a supply block, operating theatre, mortuary kitchens etc. This means working at top pressure, night and day. When complete it will be one of the largest of its kind 14 09 25

1914 10 09

A soldier from the Gloucester Regiment, lying in Trinity College, writes "I am a wounded soldier who has lost his leg whilst fighting at the front. I had it taken off by Lieut.-Col. Deighton at Cambridge Hospital, which was a great relief to me and saved my life. I wish to thank all the visitors who came in to see us wounded soldiers and for the presents I have received. We get treated very well and the nurses and sisters are so kind and gentle. A choir comes to sing on two evenings. It is lovely and we enjoy it so much. I am proud to say that I lost my leg for King and country. Others including Sawston 14 10 09

1914 10 16

Two military funerals took place from the First Eastern General Hospital at Trinity College. One body was sent in a coffin wrapped in a Union Jack to the station and put on a train to Durham. The railway expenses were generously defrayed by Nurse Keep. The funeral of other, Arthur Larkin of the Royal Scots, was held at Newmarket Road cemetery. He'd been wounded at Mons and the cause of death was tetanus. Bugler Royston sounded the 'Last Post' 14 10 16

1914 10 30

As motor ambulances are much needed Cambridge Red Cross have decided to hire a chassis from the Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company and build an ambulance upon it. Other chassis have been lent by Mr Briscoe of Longstowe, Lady Inchcape and Mr Douglas Newton while Lady Waldstein has also converted one of her cars into an ambulance. These, together with those lend by Messrs King & Harper will convey wounded with increased comfort from the station to the First Eastern General Hospital 14 10 30 p8

1914 12 18

Royal visit Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein to First Eastern General Hospital 14 12 18

1914 12 25

Nurse Boutle of South Street volunteered for foreign service with the Red Cross Society. She was taken prisoner in Brussels and sent to nurse wounded German and French soldiers. When the Germans refused to let them go she disguised herself and after a risky journey and an exciting incident with a German sentry – three minutes afterwards a man was shot at the same spot – she reached the coast. On the crossing the steamer passed two floating mines. She had no complaints about the conduct of the Germans who saluted nurses in the street 14 12 25

1915

1915

11th (Service) Battalion (Cambs) Suffolk Regiment stationed at Hut Barracks to leave at end week to train as part of larger unit; have won high esteem of inhabitants. Nucleus formed in Aug 1914 when Army Relief Camp was established in Cambridge under Col Heycock of CUOTC. 300 men were billeted in Corn Exchange then County Girls' School. Recruits came in well as Territorial Force Association asked permission War Office to raise a county battalion of the Regular Army. Authority received Sep 25th & recruiting campaign started. Moved Melbourne Place School 30th Sept where Col C.W. Somerset took command; moved Territorial Drill Hall, East Rd & Eden Street, King St & East Road school requisitioned.

1915 02 12

C.T. Skipper, architect of FEGH and Cherry Hinton huts appointed to War Office to produce new hospitals 15 02 12

1915 03 05

Addenbrooke's Hospital has experienced exceptionally difficult conditions due to the extension and alteration of the buildings and the disorganisation of staff arising from the war. Various surgeons had been commissioned into the army and nurses had volunteered for service with Queen Alexandra's Naval Nursing Service. But the X-Ray department is now working in the new out-patients department

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and Dr Roderick had supplied radium for the benefit of patients for whom this treatment is required. They'd offered 60 beds for wounded soldiers but these had gone to the First Eastern General Hospital
15 03 05

1915 04 23

Red Cross – no more small convalescent homes to be opened – are waiting at Balsham, Cottenham, Gt Shelford & Cambridge; Seven hospitals now open with 158 beds. First Borough Hospital temporarily closed & would reopen at St Chad's; also one at Linton. A private hospital opened at Cheveley by Lady Savile Crossley. New scheme for large convalescent camps 15 04 23 p7

1915 05

Isolation hospital new block added, cost £5,600 [1.11]

1915 05 07

Cambridge Sanatorium additions Isolation Hospital complete – block of 14 beds; enter from Vinery Road 15 05 07 p4

1915 05 14

Isolation Hospital, Mill Road opened, history 15 05 14 p4; 15 05 14a Ch

1915 05 14

Dentist in wartime – work at 1st First Eastern General Hospital 15 05 14 p7

1915 06 18

First Eastern pamphlet by Shipley 15 06 18 p6

1915 06 18

Formation of 5th (Depot) Company authorised 2nd Dec and on 11 Dec moved into the new Hut Barracks, Continued to grow. Two Depot companies will remain in Cambridge to train any further drafts. Fighting strength that will move out comprises 26 officers, 1,084 other ranks ... 1915 06 18

1915 07 16

Consider disposal of sewage from the Military Hospital in course of erection Newmarket Road 15 07 16 p4

1915 07 16

Measles epidemic accelerated due 20,000 men of Welsh division who billeted in private houses 15 07 16

1915 07 16

Consider disposal of sewage from the Military Hospital in course of erection Newmarket Road 15 07 16

1915 07 23

Red Cross – 12 hospitals now open in Cambridge and county 15 07 23 p4

1915 08 06

Addenbrooke's Hospital – Albert and Griffiths wards to be used as extension of EGH for 60 wounded soldiers; payment 4s per head per day; new out-patients and casualty departments completed 15 08 06 p8

1915 09 24

Shepreth VAD hospital scandals and false accusations lead to application to dismantle hospital – Ald Webber, Wimbish Manor 15 09 24 p7

1915 12 01

Red Cross – what the VADs are doing – collect wounded from railway station – 15 12 01h Ch

1915 12 15

First Eastern General Hospital, opening of new recreation room m- 15 12 15b Ch

1916

1916 01 12

Mount Blow, Gt Shelford, VAD Hospital & staff – photo – 16 01 12c

1916 01 26

Albina Lucy Wherry, wife of Lieut-Col Wherry of RAMC & surgeon, organiser of Red Cross VAD activity; author of pamphlets on various subjects – profile – 16 01 26b

1916 01 26

Fulbourn VAD hospital - photo nurses, ward – 16 01 26c

1916 01 26

Wordsworth Grove Hospital new recreation room opened – 16 01 26a

1916 02 09

Addenbrooke's Hospital extensions and alterations completed – roof had been bad, parapet taken down – 16 02 09a

1916 02 09

Linton VAD Hospital – feature – 16 02 09d

1916 03 03

Hospital mystery. Soldier dies from acute alcohol poisoning – soldier patient at Cherryhinton Road Hospital. A private in 16th Canadian Scottish Regt. There were no facilities for leaving the hospital at all and no visitors were allowed. Whatever a man received in hospital was provided by hospital and place was under proper guard. Should have been in detention ward which was five yards from roadway. Between road and window was six-foot ditch and a hedge. Would have to get over ditch and hedge to give liquor through window. But was easy to pass a bottle from outside in the darkness when the sentry could not see. Guard inspected through little hole. The man appeared dead, the hut was locked. Doctor said body smelt of alcohol. Alcohol must have come from outside 16 03 03

1916 03 01

St Chad's VAD Hospital – photo profile – 16 03 01

1916 03 01

Cherry Hinton Road military hospital patient dies alcoholic poisoning in detention ward – 16 03 01d

1916 03 08

Wordsworth Grove VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 08d

1916 03 08

Military Isolation Hospitals – grave danger; men escaped Newmarket Road and plundered orchards, indecent assault; guards should be increased – 16 03 08f

1916 03 15

Ontario Military Hospital designed by C.F. Skipper, architect of Cambridge & erected by William Sindall; others on similar lines include First Eastern, Canadian Red Cross, Scottish National Red Cross Hospital Glasgow – 16 03 15b

1916 03 15

Tuberculosis colony, Bourn – detailed feature – 16 03 15d,e, f

1916 03 22

Huntley VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 22a

1916 03 29

1st Balsham VAD – photo feature – 16 03 29c

1916 04 05

Balsham Park House VAD – photo feature - 16 04 05f

1916 05 24

St Chad's Red Cross Hospital celebrate first anniversary by an outing to Ely – photos – 16 05 24b

1916 07 19

100th ambulance train arrives – 15 07 19a

1916 09 16

Swavesey VAD photo feature – 16 09 16b

1916 10 25

Red Cross – activities of year, VAD hospitals, 26 10 25b

1916 10 25

VAD nurse at First EGH, occupied rooms at Selwyn where large number of nurses have been accommodated; dies after dressing gown catches fire – 16 10 25e

1916 10 27

To combat venereal disease – public meeting – 16 10 27

1916 11 15

Mr and Mrs. Charles Finch Foster had given to the Hospital the sum of £1,000 commemoration of their golden wedding. Mr. Foster had asked that the Hospital should assign a bed, in consequence of this gift, in accordance with their by-laws. The General Committee had gratefully accepted this very liberal donation, and the inscription on the bed would be as follows: "A Golden Wedding Gift. 1866. October 2. 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Finch Foster endow this bed to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day". This was, added Mr Lock a very valuable present and he ventured to say it was an example which they might hope others would follow 16 11 15 CIPof

1917

1917 02 28

Cherry Hinton military hospital – suicide of soldier, gassed – 17 02 28b

1917 03 22

Mr Paget asked in parliament about town council resolution of 2nd March 1916 drawing attention War Office to lack of control of and the insufficient guards placed at military isolation hospitals in Cherryhinton Rd & Newmarket Road whereby patients were enabled to escape and thereby cause danger to the health of the community. Mr Churchill, Sec of State for War asked – 4th registrar of Cherryhinton military hospital reported to local medical officer of health that the previous day a soldier had been discharged from hospital at his own request suffering from venereal disease ... was due for demobilisation 1917 03 22 Hansard

1917 12 19

Red Cross Hospital beds unoccupied and those sent require no nursing – 17 12 19a

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1918

1918 03 20

The Secretary of State for War, Lord Derby, made an unofficial inspection of the 1st Eastern Hospital. He visited the administrative offices, the Nurses' Mess and went round several of the wards & the recreation room, where the Irish ladies of the town had provided a sumptuous tea on the eve of St. Patrick's Day for the Irish patients. This pleased him much. The kitchen and operating theatre were then inspected, and he expressed himself as being extremely satisfied especially with the open-air wards 18 03 20 CIPof

1918 05

Addenbrooke's Hospital £1,500 in debt [2.3]

1918 05 10

PC Barnes saw two soldiers in hospital uniform going towards Mill Road each carried a full sack. Said it was bread for the hospital from Bainbridge's shop. Until six weeks ago breaking out of the hospital bread been reduced to a minimum – one or two cases a month. But recently had increased to 2-3 per night, mainly owing to reduction rations. But they got more than ordinary peropld. 10 ounces of meat, 14.5 ounces of bread and a pudding each day. In course of their treatment some were put on a milk diet for 24 hours and got hungry. They were encouraged by baker to break out and obtain large quantity of bread which they sold in the hospital when they got back at rate of 1s a loaf. It was doing men a great deal of harm and was very derogatory to discipline. Baker gave them stale loaf, they came back for 40 loaves, came into the house and wife made them cocoa. Did not know that bakers came under Shop Hours Order – should close not later than 8pm except Saturday 18 05 10

1918 12 11

Wordsworth Grove Hospital, Cambridge, has Newnham gymnasium lent to them for their massage and electrical department, a large, airy bright building where between 30 and 40 cases a day are treated—men in hospital in the mornings, and out-patients and discharged soldiers in the afternoons from Swavesey, Newton, Harston, Duxford and outlying villages. The treatments are massage, galvanism and Faradism, radiant heat, hot air and ionisations and exercise. The work here, as in all other Red Cross Hospitals in the county, is carried on under the supervision of Miss Laven, who has been untiring in her efforts on behalf of the wounded ever since the outbreak of war. 18 12 11 CIPof

1919

1919 03 05

Oxygen treatment for gas poisoning, specially erected chambers at 'Springfield', Sidgwick Avenue in connection EGH. Research started in Physiological Laboratories early in 1917 under Joseph Barcroft who made Superintendent in Physiology to Ministry of Munitions. Thirty cases have been treated. Requires exercise and physical training in spacious grounds. Has inner chamber of iron and glass which is airtight. Oxygen added. – 19 03 05a

1919 04 30

Red Cross Society; closing down the hospitals, most closed this month – 19 04 30g

1919 05 14

Shelford VAD Hospital winding up ceremony – 19 05 14a

1919 06 18

Memories of Albina Wherry, VAD nurse on station and aircraft precaution squads; describes scenes on Red Cross railway trains full of wounded soldiers – 19 06 18f

1919 08 06

Soldiers on strike. At a meeting of the Cambridge War Pensions Committee, the story was told of a strike of discharged soldiers undergoing treatment, at the Papworth Tuberculosis Colony. Dr Aldren Wright told the committee that on July 2 something not quite satisfactory occurred with regard to the food. There had been a little dissatisfaction before, and on this occasion they asked the Superintendent. (Dr. Varrier-Jones) to receive a deputation. Mr Varrier-Jones said he would quite willing to listen to the individual complaints but would not interview them collectively. Three representatives however went in to see him and discussed with him the food situation and some words took place with the result that two of the men were dismissed, and this incident was followed by the whole of the discharged soldiers in the building, with one or two exceptions leaving the same day 19 08 06 CIPof

1919 09 10

First Eastern General huts to be converted into houses; 120 applications already received. One long ward to accommodate 16 small families; divided by concrete slabs – 19 09 10b

1919 09 24

Cambridge provisional limb depot began last January, a workshop established by Red Cross Society; provides light peg legs for amputees – 19 11 05b VAD in Cambs; notable record of work in days of peace and war, by Alex Wood – detailed account – 19 09 24b

1919 11

Nurse dies after she cuts her hand on scissors [2.7]

1919 11 07

Isle War Pensions Committee – discuss buildings adaptable for training purposes. Most promising two hospitals at Cambridge. One Barnwell erected for 780 patients, other Cherry Hinton for 800, each complete accommodation residential staff - Barnwell 1,000, Cherry Hinton 1,110. Buildings commodious, well planned & well provided with first class roads, drainage done. Both used for venereal cases but practically vacated & notices could be put up about new use; men would not go to buildings associated with VD. Barnwell temporarily occupied by 80 general cases from 1st Eastern General Hospital while few VD cases being treated – ES 19 11 07 p6

1919 11 14

Training centres for discharged soldiers ... venereal diseases hospitals ...is no risk of infection but would men go into them ... hospitals at Barnwell and Cherryhinton Road, one having accommodation for 750 men and the other for 800 are most suited. A matter of sentiment – VD Hospitals as training centre – meeting convened by Church League for Women's Suffrage ... military established two hospitals and prevented men getting out a d mixing with inhabitants ...if buildings taken down and re-erected on another site with delay, construction of new roads and paths and new system of draining there would be no objections ... when FEGH taken over by Town Council some of patients were sent to these hospitals but had great difficulty getting the men to go there ... there was a moral taint about the place 19 11 14

1919 12 17

First Eastern General Hospital – first tenants move in – 19 12 17a photos – 19 12 17c

1920

1920 01 02

1st Eastern Hospital reunion ... Griffiths says early in war was asked make provision for treatment of diseases amongst British and Colonial troops ... established two hospitals where nearly 2,000 patients were at one time accommodated 20 01 02

1920 02 18

Burrell's Walk hut – experiences of resident – Ch 20 02 18a

1920 03 10

Cherry Hinton Military Hospital patients get out of institution – questions to military – Ch 20 03 10b

1920 03 30

Burrell's Walk – 242 applications for accommodation, 74 in occupation of tenements and on completion of the first part of the housing scheme would be accommodation for further 60; 108 for whom no accommodation. Two of the wards were still in occupation of military who could not vacate for another month - CDN 20 03 30

1920 06 05

First Eastern General Hospital arrangement with colleges only temporary, when agreement comes to an end there will be over 200 more families to be provided for. At present are 128 families in occupation – CDN 20 06 05

1920 07 17

Motor ambulance of Red Cross Society now available for public, charge 1/3 per mile, reduction if poor [6.7]

1920 09 04

First Eastern General Hospital alterations being carried out in three parts, the first providing for 134 tenements, the second for 48 and the third (now being proceeded with) for 31, making 213 in all. Even when all taken will still be more than 100 unsatisfied applicants - CDN 20 09 04

1920 09 08

Training of the disabled; how Cambridge war heroes are treated - Ch 20 09 08

1920 09 24

CEMS members in Cambridge was asked to visit men in Cherryhinton Road Military Hospital but 'suggestion was not well received and the matter was dropped' – 'Men., Masculinities and Religious Change' 1920 09 24

1920 11 24

Cherry Hinton Road military hospital sale wooden huts etc; buyers Ely county council, Cambridge Steam Laundry, Cambridge Gas Company – Ch 20 11 24

1920 12 16

First Eastern – during snowy weather water leaks through roof, the only obtainable as pipes are frozen; coke ran out and no hot water, water cistern frozen and ten lavatories between 32 flats - CDN 20 12 16

1921

1921

Evelyn Nursing Home opened as result of £30,000 given by Mr Agnew in thanks for wife's recovery after serious operation [1.2] 1919 the local nursing home was a sizeable house in Thompson's Lane next to electricity works (later Magdalene lodging house). Primitive theatre on 1st floor & no porter, patients needed to be carried up & down narrow zig-zag stairs on stretcher angle 60 degrees; Charles Agnew's - of Agnews Bond St art dealers - wife Alice operated on & in gratitude he built new nursing home in about 1922 by extending a large house called The Orchard in Trumpington Road & named after his wife Evelyn. In early 30s extension & new theatre added. Fees charged sometimes waived & University could use money from Crane's Charity to pay for needy undergraduates. A non-profit making institution for town & gown 81 09 24

1921 07

Nurses' salaries compared with those of Corporation scavenger [2.9]

1921 06 11

Voluntary hospitals in financial difficulties [3.14]

1921 10 15

Motor ambulance for use of townspeople provided by Special Constables [1.10, 2.19, 3.2]

1922

1922 01 28

Special Constables thanked for their work during War; provide motor ambulance for use of townspeople; did 49 jobs and travelled 500 miles [2.19,1.22,2.8]

1922 04 29

At the Grand Council of the Red Cross Society and St John Ambulance Association Mrs Hartree raised the question of the police ambulance, and said she understood that the police ambulance was to be kept in the town, and that the Red Cross Ambulance should be used for long distances. However it was seen that the Police ambulance had gone on long distances - Ipswich and Norwich. Mrs Pryor said she knew the ambulance had been used extensively at the Evelyn Nursing Home. The Chief Constable said that the objection to the Red Cross Ambulance was that it was not heated, but they had very quietly informed him that it was heated and the ambulance had been much improved lately 22 04 29

1922 07 15

Something more than a talking-to ought to be administered to the boys who have committed so much wilful damage to the remains of the Barnwell Military Hospital adjoining the Newmarket-road just beyond the Cambridge Borough boundary. For some reason the boiler house and one complete section of the wooden hutments have been left, apparently totally uncared for, and are rapidly going to wreck and ruin. The site of the hospital, overgrown with weeds and littered with debris, forms a happy hunting ground for children who are able to get through the gap where the gates used to be. The bolder and most mischievous of the boys have found the remaining buildings a tempting target for stones, and scarcely a pane of glass remains undamaged 22 07 15

1923

1923 04 21

Speaking to Cambridge Rotary Club Dr H B Roderick compared Addenbrooke's Hospital 50 years ago with today. In 1872 the average stay in hospital was 37.87 days and in 1922 to it was 27.46 days, so that with practically the same number of beds, owing to the more rapid turnover due to shortened convalescence, they were able to deal with a considerable number more patients. In 1922, 2,376 operations were performed, and 2,231 in-patients and 4523 outpatients were treated. This great increase in work naturally involves increased demands both on the medical, surgical, and nursing staffs of the hospital, as well as on its financial resources. The present operating theatre was constructed in 1897 and today it is out of date. Two theatres, on modern lines, are urgently needed in order to cope with the ever-increasing work 23 04 21

1926

1926 03 01

The motor ambulance service in Cambridge continues to prove of great benefit and increased demands have again been made both for accidental and private cases. An additional motor ambulance has been purchased and has proved of great assistance. The number of calls received was 701, 175 to accidents and cases of sudden illness in the streets and 526 to private removal cases. The Watch Committee have excused payment in several cases of private removals, where the persons were in necessitous circumstances. The ambulances are available at any hour of the day or night upon application to the Central Police Station or Fire Station.

1926 09 23

Cambridge Workers' Hospital Fund raised nearly £3,900 last year but expenses of Addenbrooke's Hospital were liable to increase. They were now installing new operating theatres, two of the women's wards were being remodelled to provide sanitary annexes and in the near future they would have to build a new ward on the top of Victoria. This all cost money and unless their income was increased they would have a drop in efficiency. It was a worry to know where the money was coming from. One bright spot was the parades; before the war they only received £600 from them, this year it would be over £4,000 26 09 23

1927

1927 04 09

In view of the increasing numbers of road accidents and increased road traffic, the British Red Cross and the St John Ambulance Association are endeavouring to cover the country with road ambulance stations consisting of (a) motor ambulance stations, (b) first-aid detachment with equipment and (c) posts where a haversack of first-aid equipment will be kept. It is hoped to have the scheme running during weekends and Bank Holidays. There must be a number of young people in Cambridge who have qualified in first aid who can come forward to help in this great humanitarian work.

1927 05

Authorise construction of maternity department, May; decide not to proceed August & discuss maternity home [2.12]

1927 05 14

Radium fund introduced [2.29]

1927 07

Proposed enlargement at cost of £37,400 - new ward on top of Victoria, at present waiting list of 23 men & 56 women [2.13]

1927 03 01

Dr Francis Shillington Scales one of the foremost radiologists in the country has died. He was appointed medical officer in charge of the X-ray department at Addenbrooke's Hospital and made much of the apparatus himself. He had an extensive private practice in the special branch of medicine to which he had elevated himself, and had an elaborate X-ray apparatus installed at his residence in Adams Road 27 03 01

1928

1928 06

Two operating theatres opened [2.14]

1928 07 19

Ely Urban Council considered the advisability of obtaining a motor ambulance. Cases were frequently happening where a person was ordered off to the Hospital at once. Last week frantic efforts were made to find an ambulance but the only vehicle that might be termed an ambulance was being used at a funeral and they had to telephone to Cambridge for one. This was a standing disgrace to Ely. Their friends at March had purchased a first-class ambulance for £880 and Soham had one

1929

1929 02

Appeal for £90,000 for rebuilding [2.15]

1930

1930

Mill Road Poor Law Infirmary & workhouse closed when responsibility passed from Poor Law Guardians to County council; becomes County Municipal Infirmary for infirm & able-bodied homeless with nursery for children; some huts for mothers in childbirth [15.2]

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Chesterton poor house taken over by local authority [12.7]

1930 03 15

The time is drawing near for the opening of the new Musgrave Ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital. The name is a reminder of the great service rendered by T. Musgrave Francis, chairman of the General Committee. The hospital wards get their names in various ways; sometimes it is after royalty as in 'Victoria' and 'Albert' but the most interesting in 'Tipperary' which was built in 1913-14. For a long time it was known as the 'New' Ward but the 'long, long way' that one had to travel to get to it reminded people of the popular song and gradually the name stuck. The 'Tipperary' Ward always made the hospital look rather lop-sided from the front, but the new 'Musgrave' restores the balance. 30 03 15c

1930 03 28

With the sun's warm rays streaming in at the windows – a fitting herald of life and health – the new Musgrave Ward was opened at Addenbrooke's Hospital. It is an addition to the top floor and intended as the second women's surgical ward. It contains 18 beds with three single-bed side wards and a balcony accommodating six beds for open-air treatment. Its name commemorates T. Musgrave Francis, chairman of the General Committee, who provided a tea and concert in the out-patients' department. 30 03 28b-c [1.12]

1930 04 01

The disappearance of Boards of Guardians and the transference of the Poor Law work to the Public Assistance Committees has caused some bewilderment. The chief institution in Cambridge is that at 81a Mill Road; it was erected in 1838 as a 'Union' to replace numerous small parish workhouses. The name has been changed to Poor Law Institution in recent years. The demand for accommodation became so acute that in 1923 they had to build a new block. The Infirmary of the old Workhouse has become a hospital with 124 beds in up-to-date wards with a large nursing staff including three certified midwives. 30 04 01a-c

1930 06 19

The New Cherryhinton Nursing Association was wound up; the nurse's time has been by no means fully occupied and much has been of an unskilled nature. Now Nurse Hodges has left. 2,204 visits had been made during the year but many people prefer to employ a private nurse rather than the district nurse, although she is fully qualified for every branch of the work. The district was growing but new people seemed disinclined to join the Association. 30 06 19d

1930 08 20

There are only seven patients at Oakington Isolation Hospital, the cases were chiefly scarlet fever and the virulence of this disease was decreasing. The matron and porter have retired due to ill-health. It would be best to close it and arrange for Cambridge sanatorium to take the patients. But the cost of maintenance there was three shillings and sixpence more a week, councillors were told. 30 08 20d-e

1931

1931 08

Given £6,000 to enlarge X-ray department [2.24]

1931 10 02

Addenbrooke's Hospital contributory scheme encourages people to pay twopence per week. Treatments get more expensive as doctors discover new methods of helping people and owing to lengthening waiting lists extensions to the hospital become necessary. But it is no use having additional wards unless there is an increase in funds. Those who do not join may be required to pay a substantial charge if they need treatment. 31 10 02 o,p

1931 12 11

1931

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William Darnell, the head porter at Addenbrooke's Hospital is the best-known and most popular man to be featured in our 'Mystery Backs' series. Almost every writer identified him. They described him as 'genial', 'kind-hearted', and say 'the hospital would be a sorry place without him for he has a smile and kind word for every one'. Many asked that if they should win the five-shilling prize that it should be donated to Addenbrooke's. 31 12 11a

1932

1932

New wing opened, eye ward opens, X-ray clinic opens after £8,500 anonymous gift [2.26,2.25,2.27]

1932 07 15

The Duke and Duchess of York opened Papworth Village Settlement's Women's Hospital which provides accommodation with the personal appurtenances of a private bed-sitting room so that each of the 62 patients may enjoy cheerful, colourful surroundings in her fight for health. Then they journeyed on to Addenbrooke's Hospital to open a new wing for children. 32 07 15a & b

1932 09 09

Members of the Cambridge Workers' Hospital Fund say they cannot accept the new Addenbrooke's Hospital Contributory Scheme. There have been no discussions with the Hospital who have rejected every approach. They had refused permission to put posters on the gates of the Hospital saying it would not look nice – although notice boards advertised a staff dance for the nurses. 32 09 09a

1932 10 01

Private wards cost 12/- (60p) a day [1.13]

1933

1933 03 04

First Eastern General Hospital reunion – 33 03 04d

1933 03 14

Arthur Cooke, senior Surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital, owned one of the first steam cars in Cambridge. He was founder of the University Automobile Club which wound up about 1926 when the funds went to form the Ricardo Prize for Thermo-dynamics at the Engineering School. 33 03 14 & a

1936

1936

Mill Road: County announce development of maternity side & establish 20 beds, 96 births during year, by 1939 was 300 [15.3]

1938

1938 01 26

Oakington Isolation Hospital to be closed with cases transferred to Cambridge – 38 01 26

1938 04 02

Miss Moggach has retired as Matron at Addenbrooke's Hospital after 13 years. There have been many changes: the number of beds has increased from 190 to 320 and the number of nurses from 48 to 180. A preliminary training school for nurses has been established, a bed endowed at Delhi in memory of former matron Mary Cureton and a fund started for a chapel for nurses. She took a keen interest in nurses' recreations, starting the various sports clubs and presenting the first cups for tennis. 38 04 02a

1938 04 11

The First Eastern General Hospital is to be revived as part of a War Office plan. The site has not been officially approved but will not be far from Cambridge. It would have 600 beds on mobilisation, possibly expanding to 1,200. There will be a permanent staff of three officers and 24 other ranks with Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

19 medical officers, a matron and 49 nursing sisters. On mobilisation the staff will be increased by other ranks largely composed of V.A.D. men and women. They hoped it would never be called into action, but they must be prepared, ex-servicemen were told. 38 04 11a & b

1939

1939

Mill Road transformed into AI Hospital under Emergency Medical Service to cater for expected casualties from East Coast hospitals in event invasion; takes Dunkirk evacuees, civilians still dealt with; 'temporary' theatre & X-Ray block set up in wooden huts (functioned till Hospital closed) [15.4]

1939 02 08

The Grove Nursing Home was opened in 1920 with three beds. Nine years ago it was moved to Chesterton Road where there were nine beds. The most recent expansion is to 159 Hills Road where a newly completed extension gives accommodation for 20 patients as well as an up-to-date operating theatre with anaesthetising room and all the modern apparatus. The home is, of course, centrally heated 39 02 08b

1939 03 03

Cambridge is to raise a 600 bed Military Hospital (Territorial) with an establishment of 23 officers, 50 nursing sisters and 145 other ranks. Steps are being taken to provide temporary accommodation for officers and social purposes pending the erection of permanent buildings. This new unit replaces the original 1st Eastern General raised in Cambridge and the Isle of Ely in 1908. After the war, the hospital was disbanded, but in 1938 it was reconstituted under the command of Lt.-Col. C. H. Budd. M.C. T.D. 39 03 03 CIPof

1939 04 17

The old First Eastern General Hospital had been born again last year, but it had a short life and died in the September crisis. Then the Cabinet decided to form eight Territorial General Hospitals and it was revived as the "2nd (1st Eastern) General Hospital". There are 23 officers and 145 other ranks, a matron and nurses and it will have the same number of beds, about 600. Old Comrades can assist training recruits in the initial stages, they were told at their annual dinner 39 04 17

1939 06 29

Emergency plans envisage that as London will probably be attacked before Cambridge the County Infirmary should provide for 250 casualties from Central London. The Ministry would provide bedding and equipment but mattresses and pillows would be supplied as cases only, to be filled as required. It would be up-graded with an operating theatre and X-ray rooms, emergency lighting and better sanitary conveniences. But in the event of local casualties the London cases would be transferred to other hospitals 39 06 29

1940

1940

Hope Nursing Home acquired by Roman Catholic Sisters of Holy Family after evacuated from London 1940 [446.9.8]

1940 06 16

The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge. At an emergency hospital, the whole of the nursing staff, regular and auxiliary, were lined up and inside the ward, the royal visitor talked with some of the patients, including several members of the B.E.F. back from France. An R.A.F. sick quarters, which is entirely nursed by the Red Cross, was the next place of call. After inspecting two of the wards, the Duchess saw a short display of surgical work by the nurses. Proceeding next to the University examination Hall, now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Duchess saw some of the American ambulance units presented to the region then inspected the joint war organisation emergency hospital stores 40 08 16 CIPof 40 08 14a

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1940 11 29

Hospital Inspected. Cambridgeshire's first convalescent home and auxiliary hospital under the Joint War Organisation and the Ministry of Health is staffed by two trained sisters, Miss Simmons and Mrs. Bailey, and B.R.C.S. members of detachments Cambridgeshire 14 and 38. Commandants Mrs. Martin Wright and Miss S Phillips 40 11 29 CIPof

1942

1942 07 24

Isolation Hospital Mill Road temporary extension opened for infectious diseases – 42 07 24

1943

1943

Radiotherapeutics centre established [7.1]

1946

1946

Mill Road: County plan to turn into maternity unit, delay due imminence of National health Service in 1948 [15.10]

1946 05 13

Plans for new hospital at Chesterton on site of present one approved by county council and will go to Ministry. There were beds at Chesterton which could have been used for a long time and enable them to close down the disreputable, disgraceful, uncomfortable and insanitary beds which patients now occupying. But this 50-bed ward was away from the main building and the Medical Officer would not take responsibility of opening it when they did not have enough trained people to look after it – 46 05 13

1946 11 20

County hospital, Mill Road, largely used as Maternity Unit – feature – 46 11 20

1948

1948

National Health Act abolishes Contributory scheme as becomes part of new National Health Service, East Anglian Regional Hospital Board established, Chesterton hospital becomes part [4.2, 12.7]

1948

Fire & ambulance services previously undertaken by Borough Police taken over by County Council [3.6]

1948

Mill Road formally becomes Maternity Hospital with 91 beds & premature baby unit of 6 cots, still had 24-bed female geriatric ward (till 1965) [15.11]

1948 06

Ambulance service jump gun to become first to carry patients free of charge – unique; - comes under NHS June 1948 [5.4, 63 09 19]

1948 07 05

Under the new National Health Service the Nursing Association service is to be taken over by the County Council. In reviewing their history it was reported that Mrs Marcus Dimsdale and Mrs Mellish Clark were put on the newly set up County Insurance Committee in 1911 one of the tasks was to provide nursing for patients suffering from tuberculosis who, owing to the acute shortage of sanatorium beds, had to be treated in their own homes. It was discovered that less than half the

villages in the county had the services of a district nurse. A public meeting was held in 1913 and it was agreed to form a County Nursing Association 48 07 06

1949

1949 03 23

Cambridge is pioneering in Britain a scheme by which suitable cases, instead of being nursed in hospital, will be nursed in their own homes, thereby saving up to 30 hospital beds. There was unanimous agreement that the scheme for home nursing and care could and ought to be brought into operation at the earliest possible moment. "It has tremendous possibilities", said Dr Banks. The local health authorities can do practically anything for the person ill in his own home except give him money.

1950

1950 03 01

A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control.

1950 05 19

During the Nazi "blitz" of 1940, members of the Roman Catholic Order The Sisters of Hope were driven from their home in London and came to settle in Bateman Street, Cambridge. In 1944 they moved to Brooklands Avenue. "So good has come out of evil", said the Bishop of Northampton as he laid the foundation stone of the new nursing home at Hope House. This large extension to the present premises will be completed in 12 months' time and will increase the capacity of the nursing home from its present nine patients to 30 50 05 19

1950 08 01

As from next Sunday, relatives and friends of patients in Addenbrooke's Hospital will be able to visit them for an extra ¾ of an hour. Previously the Sunday visiting time was from 2-3pm, but consultant staff have agreed to a suggestion made by matron regarding the extension of visiting time from 2.15 to 4pm. Staff also asked for consideration to periods of visiting by near relatives on weekdays between 7 & 8pm and whether there was any way of avoiding queues in the main corridors and staircases on visiting days

1950 11 28

Changes in the arrangements for visitors to Addenbrooke's Hospital were outlined by the Board of Governors. The present system of brass tokens will be discarded and the porter admitting visitors will be provided with a copy of the daily bulletin sheet for each ward and place a tick against each patient's name for every visitor.. A maximum of four visitors will be allowed with not more than two by the bed at any time 50 11 28

1951

1951 06 06

Authorisation for purchase of land for new site [2.10]

1952

1952 01 12

Cambridge Daily News Robin & Goodfellow cots established, January. [2.11]

1952 02 21

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Sixteen patients were moved to safety when fire broke out in the nurses' quarters at the Evelyn Nursing Homes, Trumpington Road, Cambridge. One of them was 102 years old. The Fire Brigade tackled "the biggest job for a long time" and brought the fire under control. Chief Fire Officer, Mr Tom Knowles, paid a tribute to the conduct of the nurses: "They were cool, calm and collected and completely unflurried; they might just have been making a cup of tea", he said. 52 02 21

1952 07 17

Hospital reopens after two months closure due to infection [2.16]

1952 11 17

CDN hand over radio sets as result of appeal run by paper, November [2.18]

1952 04 17

Cambridge Trades Council strongly objected to the closing of Romsey Municipal Restaurant. It will deny a good mid-day meal to many old people & working class men could not afford to go into places in Cambridge and pay high prices for meals. Transport workers could not get a meal if the facility were taken away. The profit of the combined restaurants is more than enough to cover losses and as municipal restaurants are a public service and not run for profit they urged the continuation of the service in Romsey. 52 04 17

1953

1953 05 16

New Cancer labs - Prof. Mitchell - policy of linking hospital & science [2.20]

1954

1954 01 27

The extension to the nurses' training school in Owlstone Road, Cambridge has everything for the convenience of the nurses. There are two shampoo rooms where the girls can wash their hair, two ironing rooms and a drying room for doing their washing and provision may be made for a small kitchen so they can fill a hot water bottle at night. Each bedroom has its own washbasin, while the dressing tables are really dressing-tables-cum-writing desks. A games room has been provided where they can enjoy table tennis or listen to the radio. There is also a piano so they can hold dances there if they wish. With such ideal conditions it will not be surprising if would-be-nurses will want to come to Cambridge for their training. 54 01 27 [2.22]

1955

1955 04 22

Chesterton R.D.C. received a letter from Addenbrooke's to say that cases of diphtheria would no longer be admitted to the hospital. There were outbreaks at Impington and Trumpington, the fourth in the village. The provision of an isolation hospital had been postponed for a long time, with the object of avoiding expense but was now imperative. They could erect one at a cost of about £650 which would meet the needs of the district for a long time to come. 55 04 22b

1955 07 02

New Addenbrooke's approved [2.23]

1956

1956 01 31

When Addenbrooke's Hospital was opened in 1766 it had no kitchens and some time later the Governors bought a small adjoining tenement. But now they celebrate the opening of new spacious and luxurious kitchens. The large dining room is artistically decorated with red curtains, yellow walls and blue Venetian blinds with separate spaces for medical and nursing staff. 56 01 31a [2.28]

1956 04 10

The resignations of Mrs and Mr Ditchburn as matron and secretary of Cambridge Maternity Hospital were accepted with regret. They were jointly appointed in 1934 when it was a ten-bedded public assistance institution and during the war became a transit hospital. Now it had grown to a 100-bedded institution and maternity training hospital of high repute and much of its success was owed to them. 56 04 10b

1956

1956 05 08

Addenbrooke's Hospital Home of Recovery at Hunstanton is used for pre-convalescent and post-operating patients. Cases can be sent down much sooner than to their own homes; hospital beds are cleared quicker and they are able to take in other patients. In 1955 687 patients stayed at the home which has now been extended with a new sitting room and sun lounge. 56 05 08 & a

1956 09 08

In Cambridgeshire there is a whole corps of volunteer unpaid drivers who put their cars at the disposal of patients, driving them in to the hospital, wait for perhaps a whole morning and then taken them home again. The service is administered by Mrs Sybil Edwards and Miss Peggy Pointer who liken the outpatients department of Addenbrooke's Hospital to the booking hall at Piccadilly Circus tube station at rush hour. 56 09 08c

1956 10 05

Mr & Mrs Ditchburn have seen many changes at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in the 22 years they have been Senior Administrative Officer and Matron. When they came in 1934 it was the County Infirmary and was mostly for old people. During the next five years a new wing was built, together with a new ward and theatre. Gradually the chronic patients became fewer and now there are only 23. During the war it was an emergency Medical Services Hospital with only one bed left for maternity patients. In 1934 there were only 56 births at the Hospital but 1,831 were recorded in 1954. 56 10 05a & b

1958

1958 02 19

A new W.V.S. Out Patients' canteen opened at Addenbrooke's Hospital. It supplies light meals and refreshments to 2,000 people a week. The welcome food and hot drinks help reduce tension and enable patients to be ready to benefit from medical advice and treatment. The canteen was started in 1911 by members of the British Women's Temperance Association and Miss Olive Golding who began the work, still does three shifts a week. 58 02 19

1958 04 23

Miss L.J. Ottley was appointed matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital in January 1944 when the war-time annexes at the Leys School and Examination Halls were in full use, giving a total complement of over 800 beds. A year later these were closed, adding to the waiting lists. The Hunstanton Home of Recovery was opened in 1947 and an unoccupied ward at Brookfields Hospital opened for medical cases. She has worked tirelessly for the betterment of the hospital and many will miss her now she is retiring. 58 04 23

1958 07 30

Addenbrooke's Hospital new site work starts August – 58 07 30

1959

1959 04 07

Addenbrooke's central sterile supply department - first in country [5.4]

1959 07 28

Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800

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beds. "Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years' time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital", said the Chairman of the Governors' building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden 59 07 28 [5.5]

1959 09 02

Excavations for the foundation of the first buildings of the new Addenbrooke's Hospital have started. It is hoped the ward block, radiological, outpatients and casualty departments will be completed in about two years. The architects are Easton and Robertson who have been responsible for many new buildings in Cambridge, including the new Engineering and Chemistry Laboratories, and the general contractors are Messrs Kerridge. 59 09 02a

1959 12

Private patient's advantages, Addenbrooke's Hospital – 59 12

1960s - the Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1961

1961

Ministry of Health agree to resiting Mill Road maternity hospital at New Addenbrooke's 'by 1975' [15.12]

1961 04 18

When completed by 1968 the second stage of the new Addenbrooke's Hospital will have been probably the greatest single building project ever embarked upon in Cambridge at one time. Described as 'a hospital in a park' it will be the most up-to-date in Britain with beds for about 1,100 patients. It will comprise five ward blocks each ward having 25 beds and a site for the Chest Clinic, Blood Transfusion and Artificial Limb Centres. In addition five acres have been leased to the University for Clinical Research and medical teaching. 61 04 18a

1961 06 01

Private patients in Addenbrooke's Hospital are to pay lower charges for their rooms. At present a single room costs £4.9s.0d. a day and this will drop by one pound. A double room comes down six shillings to £3.19s.0d. The Board of Governors have also set aside £5.12s.6d. for the purchase of a budgetary cage for the Mill Road maternity hospital 61 06 01

1961 08 12

Chesterton Hospital has 166 beds for the elderly sick and 74 custodial beds for able-bodied elderly people with no homes of their own. After decades of neglect geriatric medicine has come into its own. The number of elderly people is the highest it has ever been while a declining birth-rate has diminished the number of children available to care for their parents. Now 25 per cent of Britain's elderly are left without children to look after them in their old age. But of these 95 per cent are living independent lives and a quarter make some contribution to society until the age of 75 61 08 12

1961 10 03

Neurological surgery department opens in new hospital [5.6]

1961 10 23

Nearly 300 people had the distinction of being the first out-patients to attend clinics at the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. Long before nine they were filing into the spacious entrance hall and being dispersed to six clinic suites each of which has a receptionist to prepare them for the consultation. Only a few clinics remain at Trumpington Street, including orthopaedics, radiotherapy and psychiatry. By January it is hoped to have nearly all the wards transferred 61 10 23

1962

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1962 02 14

Cambridge's new Addenbrooke's Hospital is the first with an accident service. This brand new idea deals with everything from a minor cut on the thumb to major high-speed road accident. Eventually the idea will spread all over the country. Many labour saving devices have been introduced: electronically controlled containers in a pneumatic tube system deliver records and drugs to all parts of the hospital, oxygen can be piped to the wards, there are special chutes for the disposal of rubbish and doctors carry small wireless beepers to tell them where they are wanted. Patients are assured of the finest attention in some of the finest hospital surroundings in the country 62 02 14

1962 04 04

Addenbrooke's Hospital to install two-way closed circuit television between Operating Theatre and X-Ray department – 62 04 04

1962 05 15

'Mill Road maternity accommodation has reached crisis point' - Matron [13.1,14]

1962 05 28

The Queen arrived in Cambridge to a fanfare of trumpets and over 2,000 people stood in the biting wind to welcome her as she opened the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. With Miss M.M. Puddicombe, the hospital matron, she walked past a line of nurses to the marquee where the ceremony was held before touring various wards speaking to patients. Later the Queen visited King's College chapel to see the newly-installed Rubens painting and toured the Papworth Village Settlement 62 05 28 & a 62 05 29a

1962 05 30

Demand for plastic surgery threatens out-patient sessions [5.9]

1962 06 28

Addenbrooke's Hospital development plans – 62 06 28

1965

1965 01 12

Chesterton Hospital staff shortages are nothing new. Since the invention of antibiotics people do not die of disease at early ages, but live on. Geriatric nursing is not something you would be glad to see your daughter doing. Particularly when there is such a wide choice of less demanding and better-paid jobs. It is hard work: patients have to be fed, washed and helped to a degree unimaginable in other forms of illness. Sometimes their very helplessness makes the patients feel resentful at their dependence on the goodwill of others, so that they are critical rather than grateful for the help that is offered. If Chesterton is one of the most up to date in the country, one shudders to think what the rest must be like. 65 01 12

1965 02 01

Plans for second phase of Addenbrooke's Hospital approved – 65 02 01 [5.12]

1965 02 18

East Anglian Regional Hospital Board new offices next Chesterton Hospital – feature – 65 02 18a

1965 05 20

Mill Road 108 bed hospital full, geriatric patients transferred to Chesterton [13.2,15.11]

1965 11 30

R.S. Calne, University professor of surgery to pioneer setting up of kidney graft unit at Douglas House – 65 11 30

1966

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1966 03 15

Addenbrooke's Hospital: first glimpse of new proposals – profile – 66 03 15b

1966 03 21

First kidney graft, one of few done in country – 66 03 21 (13 done by October) [5.15]

1966 03 31

Hole in heart operation at Addenbrooke's as Papworth stopped, “may transfer to Addenbrooke's” [5.14]

1967

1967 05 31

Chesterton: £1.5M scheme for new Hospital announced [12.9]

1967 09 04

Addenbrooke's Hospital site excavates vast crater 25ft deep during construction – 67 09 04, 04a

1968

1968 03 19

Retinal detachment unit set up, new operating table designed by Donald Mackay [6.1]

1968 05 03

First liver transplant in country by Calne (patient lives 11 weeks) [6.2]

1968 07 30

“New kidney unit could upset hospital balance sheet” [6.3]

1968 11 26

Transplant consultant agreed [6.4]

1968 12 31

Try computer filing system [6.5]

1969

1969 02 24

Liver swap on 2 year-old boy [6.6]

1969 06 19

Dons favour school of post-gradual clinical medicine [6.7]

1969 08 23

Chesterton becomes one of first geriatric hospitals to have cardiac monitoring system due to charity [12.10]

1969 10 08

Mill Road premature baby unit costing £80,000 opened, part of £500,000 work over 5 years, ‘the site has almost reached saturation point’ - Hospital secretary – 69 10 08 [13.3,14]

1969 11 25

New artificial limb & appliance centre, first as integral part of new hospital [6.9]

1969 12 16

Nurses fear “hospital will grind to halt in five years” [6.10]

1970

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1970 03 20

Trains male nurses - only 5th hospital to do so [6.11]

1970 04 28

Evelyn relicenced for abortions, one of top 5 private clinics in country [16.1]

1970 06 03

Kidney Unit at Douglas House can be opened following permission for junior doctor; team headed by Prof Roy Calne; unit contains ten kidney machines – 70 06 03, 03a

1970 11 09

Renal dialysis unit opens Douglas House [6.13]

1971

1971 07 09

Alan Howard of University Department Investigative Medicine pioneers new treatment for heart cases – 71 07 09b

1971 09 29

New central laundry opens [6.14]

1972

1972 03 08

Pioneer computer medicine for processing blood test results [6.15]

1972 05 26

Campaign to be chosen centre for training physiotherapists & radiographers [6.17]

1972 05 27

An unlovely and inhumane heap. That is how the "Architect's Journal" describes the £12 million second stage of New Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge now complete after six years of building. "One would have to go a long way to find such an unlovely and inhumane heap, which looks as if it was designed piecemeal by a team of untalented temporary assistants 72 05 27 [6.16]

1972 09 27

Only hours after moves began to cut its food bill, a Cambridge hospital has learned that it is one of the top four in the country for its bill of fare. New Addenbrooke's Hospital is only one of four hospitals named in a national survey by the Egon Ronay organisation as providing "completely good meals". The Ronay accolade is a tribute to the efforts of New Addenbrooke's head chef Douglas Lambert and catering officer Miss Mary Chivers - still working together in the kitchens after 24 years. General hospitals visited spend an average of £2.40 each week on food for patients. The food bill at New Addenbrooke's has risen recently to £3.20, and the Hospital's estimates committee recommended the bill should be cut back to about £2.50 72 09 27

1972 09 29

Faced with choice - finance for either five new kidney machines or new gas fired boiler system - chose machines [6.18]

1972 12 20

Brookfields (old infectious diseases hospital in Mill Road) to become old peoples hospital in March 1973[12.1]

1973

1973 03 02

Radiotherapeutical centre develops cancer drugs [7.1]

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1973 04 12

First liver transplant for year, have developed anti-rejection drug [7.2]

1973 04 13

Nurses at Chesterton Hospital have dreaded what might happen if flames gripped the most vulnerable of their wards. Sister Pat Hough, of Harston ward, said, "Our ward has 19 continuous care patients. It has a wooden floor and it is above the kitchen". But yesterday she was a lot happier after a mock fire exercise at the old people's home in which a new invention came through its first test. The invention - a harness that lies under the mattress and clicks like a car safety belt into an emergency hammock for the patient - is the brain child of the Hospital's fire officer. She said: "The first patient was down the fire escape 35 seconds after the alarm went off. That is about four times quicker than we could have expected if we had used the conventual method" 73 04 13

1974

1974 03 11

Frank Lee centre opens [7.4]

1974 04 26

Report says Addenbrooke's planned figure of 1,700 beds too many to manage, 1,200 now recommended; may need to keep old hospital [7.5]

1974 05 06

Laundry block fire [7.6]

1974 09 12

Kidney transplant stop due new rules - can only remove when have relatives' consent [7.7]

1974 09 16

NHS reorganisation - administrative change only, to bring together hospital service, general practice & local community health services which used to function independently. Old admin bodies scrapped & new are: Dept of Health East Anglian Regional Health Authority, based Union Lane (succeeding EA Regional Hospital Board). Under them are 3 Area Health Authorities responsible for day-to-day running of each of their areas - Cambridgeshire, Suffolk & Norfolk. Cambridgeshire based at Purbeck House, Hills Rd. They have below them district management teams of trained health service administrators & between them will replace the present individual hospital management committees & boards of governors. There will be two district management teams, one based at Cambridge, one Peterborough. Liaising with these bodies will be Family Practitioner Committees who are replacing the NHS Executive councils, dealing with matters affecting family doctors, dentists, opticians & pharmacists. To represent the public interest & protect consumer Community Health Councils set up to be consumer watchdogs [9]

1974 09 24

Chesterton first with new invalid 'standing chair' [12.11]

1974 11 11

Sir – In the death of Mrs Doris Ditchburn, Cambridge has lost a much-loved citizen who will be missed by a wide circle. She and her husband came to Cambridge in 1934 to work at the old County Hospital in Mill Road. Together they worked to improve the standards of the hospital and towards her dream of a first-rate maternity hospital. Mrs Ditchburn was a most understanding person and most unlike the old-fashioned dragon of a matron, but insisted on a high standard from her nurses and gained their affection and respect. – Margaret Reed 74 11 11

1975

1975 01 02

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By end of year “NHS locally grinding to juddering halt under a snowdrift of paper & legislation which had neither cash nor manpower to cope with”; doctors, surgeons & specialists well off, hospitals well equipped & all best of medical sciences gadgetry is on hand; what in great demand is nursing power ... people have been forgotten [11] First year review (1975) says it catastrophic & chaotic, service too big to be intelligently run from an administration in London which pumps out enormous quantities of paper to Area Health Authorities with less staff 75 01 02[12]

1975 01 11

First hole-in-heart operation in city [7.8]

1975 09 16

“Now NHS sinks in a paper sea” [13]

1975 10 13

Evelyn appeal £M extend facilities, was gift 50 years ago, grandson of Sir George Agnew, head art-dealers, leads committee; 45 beds [16.2]

1975 12 13

Department of nuclear medicine opened - one of first [7.9]

1976

1976 01 15

Government change policy - now suggest only 900 beds at Addenbrooke's, also cut budget; hospital goes into red [7.10,9]

1976 02 19

Chesterton: two wards described as fire traps but no money to rebuild [12.12]

1976 03 04

Mill Road get £300 cardiac monitor from Friends, money raised by jumble sales; has ultra-sound which draws pictures foetus by sound rays [13.5, 13.6]

1976 04 13

Twenty private beds will be axed at Cambridgeshire hospitals in the first phase of Government plans for phasing out pay beds from the National Health Service. There are 56 private beds in Cambridgeshire, 29 of them at Addenbrooke's & Mill Road Maternity Hospitals, Cambridge. Others are at Papworth (3), Huntingdon (1) & 23 in the north of the county 76 04 13

1976 05 05

Clinical research unit for rheumatic diseases opens [7.11]

1976 08 04

Agnew House nurses hostel from public appeal which also raised money x-ray dept, wins award [16.3]

1976 11 30

Rehabilitation unit for disabled opens, first in hospital grounds [7.13]

1977

1977 01 10

Polio victim confirmed [7.14]

1977 02 17

500,000th patient since 1948 [7.15]

1977 04 06

Mill Road Maternity Hospital in Cambridge, a former workhouse, was slammed for its cramped and appalling conditions. A report highlights overcrowding, complete lack of privacy for patients, appalling residences for nurses & pregnant women having to sit clad only in a dressing gown in draughty corridors waiting for attention. It is virtually impossible to expand the hospital, access is difficult and car parking impossible. This is a disgraceful state of affairs for a maternity hospital doing the standard of work that Cambridge does. It should be replaced by a 100-bed obstetrics hospital on the New Addenbrooke's site as soon as finance is available 77 04 06

1977 09 22

320 bed extension called for [7.16]

1977 11 23

Major breakthrough in Leukaemia - lead world [7.17]

1977 12 13

Mill Road - three babies die due virus, conditions condemned, call for new building,

1977 12 16

Mill Road "new unit could start 1988" (1978);

1978

1978 06 17

Unit for terminally ill to be built beside Brookfields [12.2]

1978 11 24

"Can Addenbrooke's high-class frontier medicine be afforded" [10]

1979

1979

East Anglian Regional Health Authority established in place of E.A.R.H.B. [4.3]

1979 02 05

The best place to be during the current strike by members of the Public Services union is tucked up in bed in new Addenbrooke's Hospital. Those outside are at the mercy of a skeleton ambulance service, ever-growing waiting lists and a soon-to-be crippled out-patients service. Those inside simply have to put up with a reduced menu and eating off paper plates. At this time of the year it is normally at bursting-point with about 86 per cent occupancy but on Friday there were 150 beds at both new and old hospitals empty. The real suffering is in the homes of the 3,500 people waiting for operations. Waiting lists vary from about six months from gynaecological to 18 months for general surgery 79 02 05

1979 04 02

International kidney donor appeal launched in Cambridge [4.4]

1979 09 04

First trial of transplant reject drug [7.19]

1979 09 18

Mill road bed occupancy twice national average & above safety limit, 3,898 babies last year [14]
They carry on the business of life and death at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in what is little better than a clinical slum. Yet when the question of replacing it comes up this week, those with the power to close it are committed to keeping it open for another 10 years. In that time all that stands between the death of a baby, the death of a mother, or both, is the determination of the highly-motivated people who work there. But it snows on the patients in the X-ray department and there is only one lavatory
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for a dozen pregnant women. The operating theatre needs creosoting – it's an ex-Army hut – and boxes, bottles and laundry-bags litter the tunnel they call corridors. 79 09 18

1980

1980 02 13

Mill Road “start likely” in 1983 [13.7]

1980 06 13

Britain's top maternity hospital is the one in Mill Road, Cambridge – and that's official. It handles the most difficult births and a fifth of all babies in the region are born there. Government figures show that it copes with 4,000 births annually, many referred from other hospitals for specialist care, but its only operating theatre is a wooden shed built for the Dunkirk wounded during the last War. 80 06 13

1980 11 22

New University clinical school opens [8.2]

1981

1981 05 22

The seven-ton electronic camera known to thousands of fund raisers as the cancer scanner has arrived at Addenbrooke's Hospital on the back of a lorry. It was made near Nuremberg and shipped to Gravesend before going to the Siemens works for checking. It takes three-dimensional pictures of the body in micro-thin slides which can be studied to reveal the site of deep-seated disease without the need for investigative surgery. After two years the organisers are now only £100,000 short of their £1 million target 81 05 22

1981 06 03

New Medical Research Council centre opens on Addenbrooke's site, marks over 50 years medical research in Cambridge [36.9.13.1]

1981 06 03

First arm transplant (unsuccessful) [8.3]

1981 07 08

Prince Charles opens cancer body-scanner after public appeal [8.4]

1981 09 16

With the official opening of a new £450,000 operating theatre at the Evelyn Nursing Home, private medicine in Cambridge takes a decisive step forward. Most of the operations are of a routine kind for which patients can wait a long time on the National Health Service. With the growth of private health insurance an employee can have now his operation at minimum inconvenience to his firm or himself. 81 09 16

1981 10 16

The Duchess of York officially opened Arthur Rank House for the care of cancer patients in the grounds of Brookfields Hospital, Cambridge and spoke to each patient. Retired Cottenham farmer, Horace Simpkins, a life-long fan of the Royal Family, had never met Royalty before and spent five minutes chatting to her and was delighted when she gave him a flower from her posy. £200,000 out of £530,000 came from Arthur Rank Charities 81 10 16

1981 10 28

Duke of Edinburgh opens operating theatre, in use since Dec 1980, gift from Charles Morland & Evelyn Agnew [16.4]

1982

1982

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Area Health Authorities abolished, replaced by District Health Authorities. "Previously Cambridge Health managed by United Cambridge Hospitals Board, prestige medicine burgeoned apace while services for handicapped etc subsisted on what was left. Reorganisation brought hospital, community & family doctor services together but so much had been done by the UCHB that officials at a loss to trace the origins of some arrangements. New Health Authorities were officer dominated & much less involvement by lay members. Budgets drawn up under defined headings for first time & all had to justify spending - in theory - but old ways continued & budgets got out of hand. By the time Cambridgeshire Area Health Authority disbanded in 1982 it had still not sorted the financial & administrated web, money continued to be spent on what was considered important leading to criticism by Auditors" 84 03 01 [4.12]

1982 01 12

866 abortions carried out in Cambridge [4.11]

1982 06 02

New £750,000 wing, started; Robinson wing [16.5]

1983

1983 04 19

Regional health chiefs delivered a massive snub to both Cambridge City and the University by placing the Mill Road maternity unit and the old Addenbrooke's Hospital sites on the open market. They will go to the highest bidder which rules out the chance of the city buying Mill Road for an old peoples' sheltered housing scheme. They have also disregarded a gentleman's agreement with the University to give them first refusal on the Addenbrooke's site which is worth between £1 and £2 million 83 04 19 p12

1983 07 22

As Addenbrooke's Hospital prepares to close more than 100 of its beds for the summer holidays, 7,000 people are waiting for operations. Some have been waiting up to four years and waiting lists in some specialities have increased 340 per cent since 1977. Until September 1st the hospital will be on an official red alert – emergency and urgent cases only. But medical staff believe it is not far off that status without any summer closures. "It is a ghastly situation and it gets worse, week by week", said a senior surgeon 83 07 22 p1

1983 07 28

Evelyn changes status & known as Evelyn Hospital with opening new Robinson Wing [16.6]

1983 09 10

Government plans for private contractors in hospitals announced [4.9]

1983 09 16

Rosie Maternity hospital opening in September – delayed [13.9]

1983 10 06

Rosie hospital first baby, [13.9]

1983 10 22

The Rosie, Cambridge's much-awaited maternity hospital, is Liz Earl's baby. The top midwife in the area, she has been involved in its planning right from the outset. No sooner had it opened than Miss Earl had the satisfaction of delivering a baby herself, the new hospital's second arrival. The Rosie has all the 'high-tech' that could be needed – two operating theatres, an improved monitoring room and new equipment - but the general atmosphere is as comfortable and homely as it can be with bright curtains and attractive play areas for older children 83 10 22 p12

1983 11 24

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“Cambridge is ... the best place in the world to be ill in. From bunions to brain surgery there is a resident expert ...” but inadequate finance [11]

1983 11 24

“Old people face 3-year wait for ops” due insufficient rehabilitation beds [11.2]

1983 12 30

More emphasis on care in the community [4.10]

1984

1984 01

Ben Hardwick liver transplant - a two-year old, featured on ‘That’s Life’ tv programme; BBC offers £110,000 for intensive care but fear Addenbrooke’s cannot meet running expenses (dies March 1985 - 85 03 23) [2.1, 8.6, 8.8]

1984 01 15

Aids case successfully treated at Addenbrooke’s [36.9.13.6]

1984 01 24

Mill Road old hospital sold to City [13.10]

1984 03 31

It was Mrs Thatcher herself who sliced through swathes of Whitehall red tape to allow Cambridge’s new maternity hospital to be built in record time. Her role in the crucial discussions was disclosed by the chairman of the Regional Health Authority, Sir Arthur South, at the official opening of the Rosie Maternity Hospital. Mr David Robinson had agreed to give £2.9 million towards the cost but only on condition that it was completed by the end of 1983. But he wanted to appoint his own architect and builder. Government contracts usually took a long time to plan but this hospital was built probably faster than any other in the country 84 03 31 p1

1984 05 12

Brookfields opens day room for elderly patients [12.4]

1984 06 13

MRC units face cutback: Neurochemical Pharmacology - mental illness like senile dementia, vacant directorship not to be filled; Biostatics Unit moved Cambridge from London 1980, involved front-line studies from breast cancer to organ transplantation; all units except Molecular Biology have budgets axed by 21% [36.9.13.3-4]

1984 07 03

Addenbrooke’s cot-death unit saved by CEN readers after cash axed by MRC, Sultan of Brunei gives £130,000 which saves for 3 years [36.9.13.5]

1984 09 25

Cleaning at standstill after OCS win contract under privatisation scheme, (collapses in August 1986) [8.10]

1984 10 10

Old Addenbrooke's Hospital has provided care and cure for ordinary people for more than 220 years. This month it is to close and when the last patients vacate the gynaecology, plastic surgery and ear, noses and throat wards it will be sold. 84 10 10 p26 (sold February for £5.75 million) [8.11,8.14]

1984 10 20

Government rules which restricted beds to 900 scrapped [8.12]

1984 11 22

Day hospital & outpatients clinics for elderly open [8.9]

1985

1985 01 30

New cancer-treatment machine [8.13]

1985 02 07

The Old Addenbrooke's Hospital site in Trumpington Street has been bought by Cambridge University for a record £5.75 million – double the expected price. This reflects nationwide interest in what is the last major site likely to become available in the central area. There had been a gentleman's agreement to give the university first refusal when the old hospital closed, but East Anglian Regional Health Authority decided to go out to tender. It will now be used for expanding university teaching, research and laboratory departments. 85 02 07

1985 05 16

Mill Road £1M conversion announced for old peoples flats [13.11]

1985 06 26

The Addenbrooke's Hospital cleaning row has now rumbled on for nine months. It started when some 150 health workers refused to work with a private cleaning firm which beat an in-house tender for the contract. Since then nurses and doctors have joined the picket line claiming cleaning standards have fallen below acceptable levels and operations have had to be delayed because of filthy conditions. But the firm insist they are doing a good job and that newspaper reports were biased. 85 06 26a

1985 08 29

Routine tests for Aids begin, 4 patients get revolutionary new treatment [5.1, 8.15]

1985 09 26

Major shake-up of NHS management [5.3]

1985 10 03

Patients are having to bring their own bed linen to Addenbrooke's Hospital because a new laundry cannot cope. Some patients are lying on paper sheets and some doctors are doing their own laundry at home. One nurse said she had not seen any clean bed linen for three weeks. One man walked a mile home to bring his wife a proper pillow case. The centralised laundry at Fulbourn handles all the soiled linen; it does such massive amounts that get stuck in the system when the machines break down, an administrator said 85 10 03

1985 12 18

New child development centre opened [8.16]

1986

1986 06 16

Hope Nursing Home run sisters of Holy Family of Bordeaux, stop operations so concentrate on curing elderly; surgery since 1952 in Brooklands Ave [16.7]

1986 08 16

“Quarter of beds at Addenbrooke's empty due cash shortage [8.19]

1986 06 18

The University's plans for the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site will see the former outpatients' department being converted to a restaurant. The main hospital block and some single-storey buildings will be demolished and replaced with a commercial car park, the private patients' wing let for commercial use and the nurses' buildings on Tennis Court Road used for student hostels. The

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southern half of the site will be redeveloped to house the departments of biotechnology, pharmacology and biochemistry 86 06 18b

1986 09 04

Midwife Phyllis Baker started as a trainee at Mill Road in 1940. Then the hospital mainly catered for geriatrics though there was a maternity ward which was full of pregnant evacuees. In 1958 she became a community midwife when a high percentage of deliveries were at home and mothers only went to hospital if there was something wrong. Mill Road is a very happy hospital and she is happy to have been associated with it for so long. Now staff are compiling a photographic album of all the 2,001 babies she has delivered during her career 86 09 04

1986 09 16

The Evelyn Nursing Home, founded over 50 years ago, had brought its facilities up-to-date to match the increasing demand for private medicine. Its new Agnew House nurses' home won architectural awards, then came the provision of modern x-ray facilities and finally the building of a new operating theatre which has been used extensively by most local surgeons. Most operations are of a routine kind for which patients can wait a long time in the National Health Service. The majority of those on the waiting list are not incapacitated, merely inconvenienced. 86 09 16

1986 09 24

Debate on future of Old Addenbrooke's, vote for demolition by made a Listed Building Brookfields : plans announced for £2M facelift to transform into centre for care of elderly & young disabled; ultimately 3 24-bed geriatric wards, 1 for mentally ill, 25-place day hospital & 24 places disabled on site; Fulbourn hospital alcoholics unit also to move sometime; to be finished by 1995 [12.5]

1986 11 10

Old Addenbrooke's Hospital has been made a grade II listed building which means it cannot be pulled down without listed building consent from the city council. A copy of the notice under the Town and Country Planning Act has been sent to the University who want to demolish it, turn the site into a car park and later build extra space for bio-sciences. Their surveys have shown that £3½ million would have to be spent in just making good the structure and £650,000 needed just to keep the façade even if the main wards behind were demolished. Now dons are to vote on the issue. 86 11 05 vote to go ahead – 86 11 08 A major new car park could be built under the site of Old Addenbrooke's Hospital after Dons voted in favour of demolishing the buildings which they bought a year ago. – 86 11 10

1986 12 17

Ambulance HQ moves to Fulbourn Hospital [4.7]

1987

1987

Plans expand Addenbrooke's from 800 to 1,300 beds by 2001 [NS.1.4]

1987 01 09

Killer-bug at Addenbrooke's [8.22]

1987 06 12

Addenbrooke's Hospital vision for the turn of the century – 87 06 12a

1987 07 22

When the Evelyn Hospital was officially opened in 1921 there were 12 beds. Today on its pleasant site off Trumpington Road, it has a total of 56 and last year admitted 3,012 patients. There have been many improvements recently including the Robinson Wing, built in 1983 with money donated by Sir David Robinson, a modern nurses' home and a new operating theatre which opened in 1981. Each patient room has a telephone, colour television and all will soon have attractive en-suite bathrooms. 87 07 22 & a

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1987 08 03

Hope Nursing Home closes - Holy Family of Bordeaux, 1st opened 1940 Bateman St, Brooklands Ave 1944; top reopen 18 months as non-surgical nursing & residential home [CEN 3.8.87]

1987 09 15

New £2.5M scanner, 1st kind Britain at varying magnetic field strengths; Duchess of York opens [CEN 15.9.87, 8.10.87]

1987 10 01

Low salaries are driving thousands of nurses out of the National Health Service. A 28-year-old staff nurse at Addenbrooke's Hospital earns just over £8,000 a year (worth about £18,400 today) for her highly skilled, highly rewarding and highly frustrating job in neuro-surgical ward, A3. Major brain surgery has become a routine operation. Twenty beds are housed in a room off one long corridor with four others in 'The Annexe' intensive care unit. 87 10 01c

1987 12 16

Addenbrooke's Hospital £1million cleaning contract has been a disaster, health chiefs admit. It led to the longest-running dispute in the hospital's history with health workers picketing the gates for 17 months in protest against cuts in cleaning time. One operation had to be cancelled when blood and bone fragments were found on a theatre floor. Cleaning is still not satisfactory in many areas and contractors have had problems recruiting staff on low wages. 87 12 16

1988

1988 02 10

Welcome Trust & Cancer Research Campaign to establish new world-leading research institute [CEN 10.2.88]

1988 02 12

University has withdrawn its application to demolish the historic main ward block of the disused Old Addenbrooke's Hospital. A £7 million research institute to be set up on another part of the site 88 02 12

1988 04 27

A major row is brewing over the future location of Papworth Hospital and its world-famous heart transplant programme. Health Chiefs are debating whether it should be closed completely or relocated to Cambridge or Huntingdon. The benefits of Addenbrooke's sophisticated support services have been overtaken by worries that an upsurge in university research-based medicine could adversely affect routine patient care. Whatever happens it will stay put for at least 10 years. 88 04 27

1988 06 24

Addenbrooke's cleaning to switch back from contractors [CEN 24.6.88]

1988 09 24

Addenbrooke's cleaners OCS lose money, officials say contract a disaster [CEN 24.9.88]

1988 10 29

Chesterton Hospital new role as Cambridge's premier community health centre [CEN 29.10.88]

1988 11 03

City council back idea of arts centre at Addenbrooke's [CEN 3.11.88]

1988 11 16

Imperial Cancer Research Fund tumour virus group lab opens [CEN 16.11.88]

1988 12 01

Cambridge scientist pioneers Aids treatment, kills the virus [CEN 1.12.88]

1988 12 21

'Honest' Paul Tippet was one of the first traders to set up shop at Addenbrooke's Hospital 15 years ago. Now he has taken over a new purpose-built supermarket on the main concourse. The shop has been designed to accommodate wheelchairs or patients coming in with their drip stands. It does them good to get out of the wards and back into the real world for a little while. Although Concourse Mini Market sells alcohol and medicines staff check with the patient's ward sister before supplying them. 88 12 21b & c

1989

1989 01 11

Addenbrooke's establish psychiatric unit for 1st time ¢CEN 11.1.89

1989 01 05

The new shopping mall in the main concourse at Addenbrooke's Hospital is the first money-making venture to be undertaken by a joint NHS-private sector partnership. Under the deal the British Airport Services paid for the redevelopment in return for a five-year contract to manage the businesses on the site. The NHS is guaranteed income from a profit-sharing agreement with the 20 private commercial concerns which have taken space; they include a hairdresser's, florist, grocery store and cafeteria. It will be unveiled by the Health Secretary, Kenneth Clarke 89 01 05

1989 01 24

Addenbrooke's Hospital intensive care unit designed to cope with major disaster opens – 89 01 24

1989 03 11

Addenbrooke's ban private cleaning contractors ¢CEN 11.3.89

1989 03 18

Bone marrow transplant unit to be set up in new £2.5M leukaemia research development ¢CEN 18.3.89

1989 04 21

O.C.S. lose Addenbrooke's cleaning contract ¢CEN 21.4.89

1989 04 26

Cambridge Lea private hospital sold BUPA ¢CEN 26.4.89

1989 05 08

The opening of new research laboratories at Addenbrooke's Hospital will boost Cambridge's standing as a leading centre of molecular biology. It is a joint venture between the University Clinical School and one of America's leading drug giants, SmithKline Beckman and will include the MRC Molecular Genetics Unit. The laboratories will probe the origins of a wide range of disorders including heart disease, Aids and auto-immune problems affecting the body's ability to combat infections. 89 05 08 & 10

1989 05 22

MRC to open £400,000 protein & function design unit next month ¢CEN 22.5.89

1989 07 03

New £10 M interdisciplinary research centre to be established within MRC complex, Addenbrooke's ¢CEN 3.7.89

1989 09 05

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

OCS contract at Addenbrooke's collapses with 3 weeks to run ¢CEN 5.9.89

1989 10 26

New multi-million children's hospital given go ahead Addenbrooke's site - start building

1992, £3.3m 100-bed hospital ¢CEN 26.10.89

1990

1990 04 12

Addenbrooke's Hospital major blast which shattered main incinerator may have been caused deliberately; a 42 inch oxygen cylinder was buried in hospital waste – 90 04 12a

1990 06 06

Addenbrooke's Hospital transplant thigh bone of teenage girl into 73-year-old woman; first in country – 90 06 06

1990 07 04

Addenbrooke's Hospital staff evacuated after chemical spillage – 90 07 04a